

MIDDLESEX COUNTY

AREA = 7 7.0 ACRES

NOT FOR NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES

20 MILES

NEWFIELD POND (Chelmsford)

General Information:

This fertile, 77-acre, artificial pond has brown water with a transparency of just three feet. Maximum depth is 21 feet; average depth around ten feet. The waterline is moderately developed with numerous homes and cottages on the eastern and western shores, fewer on the southside. Route 40 (Groton Road) borders the water on the north. (Getting a local "Atlas to Cities and Towns" is highly recommended due to the many roads meandering around this pond.) Aquatic vegetation is scant due to the poor clarity of the water, but there are some large patches of water lilies and other submergence in the shallow coves.

This pond has little boat traffic (or fishing pressure) for the simple reason that there is no formal access. Most boats on the pond belong to shoreline residents. There is some access for car top boats and canoes on a canal that extends from the southeastern shoreline, but parking is strictly street-side and there is no ramp. The north side of the pond off Route 40 can probably provide some limited shore fishing access.

Fish Populations:

The dam on this pond burst in 1970, virtually eliminating the fishery. When the pond was refilled in 1977, the Division stocked it with largemouth bass to restore that fisheries resource. A number of other species including yellow perch, bluegill, chain pickerel, white sucker, pumpkinseed, white perch, yellow bullhead golden shiner, goldfish and carp have returned on their own or through illegal introduction.

Fishing:

This is a relatively new fishery due to the 1970 dam break. Typical of this situation, most fish species have displayed above average growth rates, which may be continuing longer than usual due to the poor access and consequent low fishing pressure. Fishing was tremendous during the 1980s, and though it may finally be tapering off, it is still very good. In any case, there is now an excellent largemouth bass population in this pond ready to provide good action to any angler who can manage to get a boat on the water. Ice fishing would undoubtedly be a good bet as well.

April 1993